VETERANS' COMMITTEE MINUTES

NOVEMBER 10, 2008 – 4:30 P.M.

Present: Chairman Barrett; Supervisors Sausville, Wright and Wood; Bob Mitchell, Veterans' Agency; Joseph Ritchey, Public Works; Jen Ciulla, Publication Specialist; Gene Corsale, Veterans' Volunteer.

Chairman Barrett called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

Mr. Ritchey gave a brief update on the existing signage to the Gerald B.H. Solomon National Cemetery as follows: He said there were two routes that were designated at the time that the cemetery was opened. The first route is from the South at Exit 12 of the northway, which has large signs with mileage distance to the cemetery. The other route is from the North at exit 14; this route is also adequately signed, he said. These routes are not necessarily the shortest routes, but they are the easiest routes. All the routes are State routes and marked with State signs that are adequately maintained, he said.

Mr. Barrett suggested having a double-sided sign at the intersection of Wilbur Road and Rt. 32. Mr. Sausville suggested another sign for the intersection of Route 9P and Route 71.

Mr. Ritchey said that both intersections are State roads and he would have to get permission to put additional signage. He said he would report back to the committee after speaking to State officials.

Mr. Barrett suggested sending a map and cover letter to the various Veterans' organizations and Legion posts stating feedback has been received with regard to signage going to the national cemetery.

Mr. Corsale requested a road sign dedicating a highway to Veterans on NY State Route 4, which would run outside Schuylerville Village to the Stillwater Township in front of the National Cemetery. The wording would be as follows: Saratoga County Veterans Memorial Highway.

Mr. Barrett said at a future meeting the committee would establish a resolution in support of the Veterans Highway sign that would ultimately have to be approved by the State.

Mr. Corsale stated that there were 50 Veterans killed in action in WWII from the City of Mechanicville. He suggested having a ceremony in their honor either at the next Mechanicville Deceased Veterans Ceremony at the county or as a separate event. The committee directed Mr. Bob Mitchell to consult with the county attorney to formulate a resolution to be passed by the County Board of Supervisors and then forwarded to the Mechanicville City Council for presentation.

Ms. Yepsen stated the estimated cost for the proposed homeless shelter for female veterans is between \$300,000 to \$400,000.

Mr. Mitchell said although the county will not be giving any money toward the shelter, the County Veterans' office does provide transportation.

On a motion made by Mr. Sausville, seconded by Mr. Wright the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Chris Sansom